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Margaret Martin '84

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Membership Chairman, Vernetta Cunningham
Northwest Ornamental Horticultural Society
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Editor:

Sallie Allen
18540 26th Avenue N.E.
Seattle, Washington 98155

Art Editor:

Dennis Thompson

Ad Manager:

Cheri Erickson
18540 26th Avenue N. E.
Seattle, Washington 98155

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Sallie D. Allen, Editor

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In Loving Memory

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Joseph A. Witt 1920-1984

I knew him only five years, and yet, he was the kind of man you felt you had known forever and who was a friend. That is what made Joe Witt so very special--a warm human being who cared about others and to whom everyone could relate.

He will be remembered by countless people who attended his public lectures and tours, and by those who sought horticultural information and advice. He took people into the Arboretum and told them about plants; he answered their most profound and their most simple questions with equal seriousness and dignity. For this he received the 1982 Outstanding Public Service Award of the University of Washington Alumni Association.

Joe Witt was a professional of the first order. He received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees at Washington State University, studying plant physiology with one of the pioneers on translocation in plants; he continued his work toward his Ph.D. degree at the University of Washington. he was a past president of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, and he commissioned the first long-range planning committee which set standards for the maturing of the Association. He was an advisor to other arboreta, and a member and officer of many horticultural groups.

Joe was devoted to the Arboretum, and yet he recognized the importance of progressive change. He gave his unequivocal and enthusiastic support to Urban Horticulture and its new programs in research and public outreach. For this and for his thoughtful counsel on all kinds of problems, I am forever grateful. It is sad he never had a chance to use his new office or to work in the Hyde Herbarium which he helped to plan.

Joe Witt was a gentleman--excellent in his profession, proud of his family, and with warmth and feeling for people. The Arboretum, the University and all horticulturists have lost a great friend. I miss him greatly.



H. B. Tukey, Jr.
Director, Center for
Urban Horticulture

Only You, True Blue

Mark Houser, Everett, Washington

The gardener is a giraffe-like creature who alternates between staring at the sky, or staring at the ground. Unless these movements are coordinated perfectly, the gardener steps on an emerging lily shoot, or is impaled on a barbed-wire blackberry. Some of the creatures learn the technique of bending over to inspect a plant, while placing one foot firmly on a serenity-threatening slug. Seen in this position, the gardener is sometimes mistaken for a plastic flamingo.

Newly born and uncertain, the infant gardener often has a craving for color. Lots of color. Vast swatches of color. And color there will be, day-glo dahlias as big as basketballs, marigolds massed like lava flowing from Mauna Loa, red and white petunias forged by Santa's helpers, spires of glowing gladioli, psychedelic fields of searing red salvia, bright enough to frighten cats and imitate the burning of Rome. After the garden has come to resemble a terrorist attack on a paint factory, the gardener installs five bushes of the hybrid Tea rose 'Tropicana', a plant whose flower color is best described as Las Vegas Lurid.

As the gardener matures, so does the appreciation of color. Bombast yields to planned restraint. Bright, coordinated eruptions of color come and go with the passing weeks in the floral calendar and do not overstay their welcome. A volcanic red Rhododendron such as R. 'Taurus' would become a tiresome guest if it lingered longer than a few weeks. Count the author as one who does NOT fancy the idea of rhododendrons blooming in July; this period belongs to the roses, the perennials, the hydrangeas. Who wants to see the Christmas decorations on Valentine's Day?

When sizzle gives way to subtlety, the gardener comes to cherish the delightful variations in foliage, color and texture. We dote on blue green, dark green, yellow green, and pale green. Plants which otherwise might be dogs are chosen for their bark. Here in the Northwest our local plantings often lack red, gold, and silver effects to lighten winter dullness. If you visit the NOHS autumn plant sale, give a thought to how your garden looked under last November's leaden skies.

And then there is blue. Painting a tableau of spring and summer color will bring the fascination, and the frustration of blue. In her book GREEN THOUGHTS, Ms. Eleanor Perényi confesses, "I love blue more than any other color. I am inordinately attracted to any blue substance; to minerals like turquoise and lapis lazuli, to sapphires and aquamarines; to cobalt skies and blue-black seas; Moslem tiles--and to a blue flower whether or not it has any other merit".

For the garden muralist, blue is the most difficult color on the palette. Many plants described as blue turn out to be disappointing shades of purple, lavender, or mauve. The evergreen azalea 'Blue Danube' is a lurid magenta-purple, reminding us of something we drank at a high school party. *Ageratum* 'Blue Blazer' is the victim of too much bleach in the washing machine. *Petunia* 'Blue Picotee' is a pleasant purple. The 'Blue Bird' *Clematis* may

leave you crestfallen. Gardeners who spend good money on these false promises should petition Congress for a Truth In Seed Catalogues Act.

Your mood, and not your flower border, may be blue if you attempt other plants which are perverse or are delectable to Ugh the Slug. *Campanula carpatica* may be cannibalized. Lupines, primulas, delphinium, and *Meconopsis betonicifolia* will either croak or become cuisine. To plant a giant hybrid delphinium is to erect a magnet for the annual June 10 monsoon typhoon. Once we treasured a blue and white Russell Hybrid lupine, but our affections were less than the attention given by fourteen slugs.

Wary and worn, the gardener at last finds plants which are reasonably true blue. Comes now more surprises. To be effective with other colors blue flowers must often be massed. One yellow coreopsis equals five or seven lobelia. Worse, the really dark blue shades tend to disappear beyond twenty feet or so. Still remembered is one of my worst gardening mistakes. A large rock garden in the rear of a flower bed was carpeted with *Lithodora diffusa*, the gentian gromwell. But unless the sun shone on them, the flowers were barely visible from a distance. Lucky is the gardener who finds a bright blue which "carries". Otherwise, the color is best used in close-up situations.

What follows is a chronological but incomplete listing of good blue-flowered plants. In your garden there may be others which have escaped the slugs, the storms, the soil diseases. Good for you. And now, Miss Gainsborough, may we have the envelopes, please . . .

MARCH, APRIL: A Rapturous Rhododendron

Gardeners, rejoice. At last we have a blue rhododendron of compact habit, decent winter appearance, and electrifying color. Rhododendron 'Blaney's Blue' is a cross of *R. augustinii* 'Towercourt' and the familiar *R. 'Blue Diamond'*. Hardy to -5°F and liking sun and well-drained soil, *R. 'Blaney's Blue'* projects a long distance when it comes into flower around April 20. Rhododendron hybrids which bloom at approximately the same time include *R. 'Golden Witt'*, *R. 'Jingle Bells'*, *R. 'Dora Amateis'*, and *R. 'Elizabeth'*. The plant could also be used with yellow leopardbane, *Fosteriana* hybrid tulips, candytuft, and flowering cherries.

A word of caution. Rhododendrons with *R. augustinii* in their parentage will often vary their color according to the temperature. Cold, such as we had in December of 1983, can make them more purple in tone, while warmth and sun, especially at blooming time, can render them a brighter and truer shade of blue. Just why this happens is a mystery.

Springtime is bulb time, and true blue is represented by the common *Hyacinthus orientalis*, *Muscari*, and *Scilla hispanica* (which is now called *Endymion hispanicus* for purposes of confusion). The common blue hyacinth is like one of the partners in a modern marriage; eventually it runs out. Blue bells and grape hyacinths are permanent, reproduce like rabbits, and furnish nice carpets around trees and shrubs. *Muscari 'Blue Spike'* is a double-flowered selection of giant size and long blooming habit.

Damp and partially shaded situations provide the best locale for three low-growing spring perennials. *Brunnera macrophylla*, *Pulmonaria angustifolia* and *Myosotis alpestris* are close-up subjects.

MAY: Dinner With Julia

Do not plant *Ceanothus* 'Julia Phelps' near a road. It may cause accidents. A pure and projecting blue, *C.* 'Julia Phelps' blooms slightly later than one of its parents, *C. impressus*, and thus combines spectacularly with the Exbury or Knaphill deciduous azaleas. Dense and compact, this sun-loving ceanothus can be used as a wall shrub or can be grown on an exposed hillside or any other location away from the lawn sprinkler. It also blooms in concert with the hybrid golden chain tree, *Laburnum x vossii*, *Genista pilosa*, and the sun-tolerant *Rhododendron* R. 'Belle Heller'.

Other good *Ceanothus* hybrids include *C.* 'Sierra Blue', *C.* 'Frosty Blue', *C.* 'Skylark'. The hardiness of ceanothus, always suspect, can be seen to vary from plant to plant and from site to site. After last December's severe and unusual freeze, many ceanothus plants appeared to have lost an argument with a flame thrower.

Happily for the gardener, another blue-flowered plant comes along at the same time as the touchy ceanothus. Is *Lithodora diffusa* a shrub or perennial? No mind. Just plant this evergreen carpenter in full sun and keep lime or bone meal away from it. Unlike other rock garden plants, this one appreciates moisture and can be assisted by burying organic material beneath it at planting time. To invigorate the plant and extend its blooming season, cut it back sharply after the main flowering burst. With plenty of sun *L. diffusa* makes a terrific ground cover around azaleas and roses. In the rock garden it combines nicely with *Arenaria montana* (sandwort), dianthus, coral bells, and geum cultivars.

May the child in us never outgrow the hybrid pansy and its cousin, *Viola cornuta*. The Majestic Giant Strain of pansies contain some of the best blues in the flower world. Long flowering in our damp and cool climate, the violas often may be chosen for their color when in flower--no need to rely on deceit-prone catalogues. Pansies and other violas have an extraordinary range of uses: in containers, around trees and shrubs, as a contrasting mulch for red-leaved Japanese maples.

Reasonably blue shades may be found among the bearded iris. Dark blue and bright blue are the respective colors found in *Aquilegia alpina*, dwarf columbine, and the annual California bluebonnet, *Phacelia campanularia*. Baby Blue Eyes, *Nemophila menziesii*, is another short lived spring annual.

JUNE, MID-JULY: Be My Veronica

From May to September is the flowering time of the veronicas, a perennial family given to tangled branches and tangled nomenclature. Since no two garden books seem to agree on the classifications, you and I might label them as Early, Middle, and Late. In May and June comes the bright spreading blue of *Veronica prostrata* and the gray-leaved *V. incana*. About this same time you may notice the weedy black sheep of the family has colonized your lawn.

Prince Charming is *Veronica* 'Crater Lake Blue'. Long blooming, low and dense, this cultivar has the further merit of keeping itself in good green condition well into the winter. The flowers are Navy blue spikes with a white eye. Ideal for the foreground of a border, this veronica is used in our garden with *Trollius ledebourii*, columbine, and early flowering red daylilies. It also combines with yellow potentilla and white sandwort.



Fig. 1: Veronica
'Crater Lake Blue'
Margaret Martin



Fig. 2: Iris Sibirica
'Tycoon'
Margaret Martin

How many perennials have the stately and architectural qualities of *Iris sibirica*? Purple, violet, and white are the principal colors, but radiant turquoise blue is the shade of the large flowered *I. sibirica* 'Cambridge'. Like the roses, these irises repay good soil preparation. Several forms of the Dutch iris are true blue, as are one or two cultivars of Louisiana Iris such as *I. 'Clyde Redmond'* and *I. 'Charlie's Evangeline'*.

Reveling in open conditions and resenting nitrogen fertilizers are four quite large June perennials: Russell Hybrid lupines, *Anchusa azurea*, *Baptisia australis*, and *Penstemon heterophyllus* 'Blue Bedder'. Because these perennials grow to shrub size, they may combine well with roses, *Cornus kousa*, *Kalmia latifolia*, and potentillas. 'Little John' is a dwarf *Anchusa azurea*.

Light and airy effects in blue may be obtained with the biennial Chinese Forget-Me-Not, *Cynoglossum amabile*, and with blue flax, *Linum perenne* and *L. narbonense*.

As much as we like the good blue color of the common *Hydrangea macrophylla*, the poor thing looks like a desolate orphan when planted by itself. Give it a home with friends. Woodland plants by nature, hydrangeas used near pines or other evergreens offer a less deplorable winter aspect. They also associate well with ferns, Japanese maples, red barberries, *Hypericum* 'Hidcote', *Potentilla* 'Goldfinger' and hardy fuchsias.

Perennial companions for the hydrangeas may include coreopsis, shasta daisy, montbretia, *Meconopsis cambrica*, and the spectacular snakeroot, *Cimicifuga racemosa*. For contrasting color as well as shade, plant *Koeleruteria paniculata*, the golden rain tree, over a group of blue and white hydrangeas. Hard to find but worth the search are the lacecap forms of *Hydrangea* such as H. 'Blue Wave', 'Lanarth White' and 'Blue Bird'. To deepen the blue color in hydrangeas feed in the spring with aluminum sulfate dissolved in water.

Ipomoea 'Heavenly Blue' is a good form of the morning glory. But, like the blue daisy, *Felicia amelloides*, it requires heat, and thus takes a long time to get going in our climate. The felicia daisies offer one of the truest shades of blue, especially in the larger flowered selections. The plant is a tender perennial, and it may be possible to winter it over in a container. Leave out lobelia? No, its preference for cool weather makes it ideal for our climate. Lobelia 'Cambridge Blue' is a good clear color. We have yet to see a truly blue clematis, but *Clematis* 'Lady Betty Balfour' is a first rate subject in dark violet.

Closing out the summer are the aconitums or monkshoods; *Aconitum* 'Newry Blue' is reputed to be a lower growing cultivar. Unlike eastern gardens, few of our local borders display the blue globe thistle, *Echinops exaltatus*, or the leadwort, *Ceratostigma plumbaginoides*. The latter is a fine carpeting plant. Some of you reading this article may ask, "Why has he left out the gentians?" The answer, of course, is that our male ego is highly fragile. Attempting to grow the touchy gentians might bring us a brutal humility transplant.

GOING APE OVER AGAPANTHUS

Do you ache for *Agapanthus*? Do you go ape over the giant blue clusters? Then you shall have them. Do not settle for the puny A. 'Peter Pan'. Let's go with the really giant *Agapanthus orientalis* and drool over the four-foot high pompoms of clear blue flowers.

Contrary to some claims, agapanthus is not entirely hardy in western Washington. Even if it were hardy, outdoor culture in the ground is not the best way to get the most of the plant. Some animals will breed in captivity. *Agapanthus* positively croons in confinement. Grow it in a plastic tub with a saucer, and take it inside for the winter. Like its relative, *Clivia miniata*, this South African native blooms best when root bound. Deployed in this fashion, it will not "lean" toward the sun and can be used on the deck or patio with nearby complementary colors.

For several years we have grown agapanthus in cheap plastic tubs and 27 saucers. Having a saucer under the tub permits easy watering for a thirsty plant. If possible, try to find a tub with a lip on it; the mature agapanthus plant can be quite heavy, and the lip makes moving the container easier. Every spring we feed the plant with two ounces of Ortho Rose and Garden Fertilizer, 8-12-4. Liquid fertilizer such as Miracle Gro can also be used. Feed heavily up to late May, then give them only water.

In November, we move the tubs to the garage and then water only slightly. When dormant the agapanthus needs little water, warmth, bright light. It sleeps. Every few years the plant may be divided by cutting open the tub and then halving the agapanthus with a butcher knife. If you follow these suggestions, your agapanthus will flower majestically and will become a tempting target for destructive children and drunken guests. Should the plant be trashed by a mindless cretin, you can smile bravely and say, "Why, doesn't everyone like blue flowers?"



Have you ever purchased gardening books by mail? No? Well, consider the advantages of doing so. When buying books by mail, the gardener (1) avoids the Washington State sales tax; (2) saves the cost of driving to the local bookstore; (3) can source hundreds of titles not available locally. In addition, mail order booksellers will often furnish you with a free search service for titles which are out of print or not in stock currently.

We have been impressed by the prompt, efficient service of Capability's Books, P.O. Box 114, Highway 46, Deer Park, Wisconsin 54007. There is no charge for their catalogue. Capability's recently located a slightly obscure title for us, and we were delighted with the mint condition of the book. The firm charges a shipping and handling fee, which can range from \$1.00 for two pounds up to only \$2.95 for ten pounds. For book orders over \$65, the firm gives a ten percent discount.

An absolutely astonishing array of titles is offered by Warren Broderick Books, 695 4th Avenue (P.O. Box 124), Lansingburgh, New York 12182. The cost of the catalogue is six (6) 20-cent stamps, and is well worth it. Mr. Broderick offers title, old and new, many of which are rare English treasures on alpine, roses, plant collecting. We are slightly overwhelmed by the listings for specific genera. Just reading his exhaustive catalogue makes us aware of how few books on gardening are offered in local outlets.

Mark Houser

* * * * *

Removing the spent flowers of rhododendrons is a tedious act of drudgery performed willingly by many gardeners. (Score three points if your fingers find a lingering bee, instant martyrdom if you topple from a stepladder.) Deadheading also benefits other Ericaceae, including the deciduous azaleas, pieris, Kalmia latifolia. Using a small scissors on the fresh seed heads of newly planted deciduous azaleas will often help the plants achieve a better bud set for next year. Grooming a mountain laurel requires two hands and a lot of patience; the stems of the laurel are relatively fragile. However, deadheading assists growth more readily than does fertilizer which may burn the kalmia's sensitive roots.



Back To Sikkim Again

Barry N. Starling, Essex, England

The seven weeks between the first and second visits to Sikkim whizzed by until on September 7, 1983, six of us met at London Airport for the start of our outward journey. This time there were John Maine, curator of the R.H.S. garden at Wisley; Peter Cunnington, curator of the University of Liverpool Botanic Garden, Ness; Stuart Macpherson, from Edinburgh Royal Botanic Garden; David Mason of Longstock Gardens; David Haselgrove, A.G.S. Publications Manager; and myself eager to be back among those magnificent mountains again. We were the "squirrels" all set to gather in a horde of seed, but we had one other important function to perform--the continuation of the survey of the alpine flora of Sikkim. Already the several hundred herbarium specimen collected by our first team in June and July had received valued acclaim in high places at Kew, largely due to Brian Mathew's thoroughness and expertise in the field.

We arrived in Sikkim to find the monsoon, which should have been in its final stages, still very much in evidence. The routine which had become so familiar to me on the first trip, soon re-established itself--a near dry start to the day; mist rolling in by 6 A.M.; drizzle by 9 A.M.; boots awash inside and out by 9:30 A.M., followed by a downpour establishing itself for the rest of the day. The team resignedly accepted this, joking at our predicament and consoling ourselves that tomorrow the monsoon would break... and tomorrow... and tomorrow.

One great compensation, however, was that there were still plenty of flowers to be seen. As soon as we broke out of the forest canopy, meadows studded with golden saxifrages and blue cyanathus had taken the place of the yellow lloydias and lavender to violet purple primulas of the earlier visit. Almost immediately as we entered the alpine zone, we found one of the most exciting plants we were to see. Peering over a high bank, we overlooked a steep scree slope of pale grey glacial grit. Against this background, soft rose heads of half-closed, nodding Dandelion-like flowers were in beautiful contrast. This, we were to discover, was the six inch high, petite *Cremanthodium palmatum* ssp. *benthamii*, looking more like a *Soldanella* emerging from the snow than a composite.

A little further on we were delighted to enjoy the bonus of a *Primula*, still in flower at this late stage. It was a new one to me though apparently it has had a tenuous place in cultivation over the years as *P. crispa*. Similar in color and shape of inflorescence to *P. capitata*, it differs in that all the flowers of the capitate head open together and the head itself is borne at right angles to the 15 inch high stem.

Earlier I had been fascinated by the tiny bells borne by the carpet forming gaultherias. Now they showed a new splendour, especially *Gaultheria tricophylla* upon whose carpet were spilled a multitude of brilliant blue beads. The fruits of *G. pyrolloides* were just as plentiful but being black, dusted with a bluish-white bloom, were less conspicuous.

The dominant *Cyananthus* was *C. lobatus*, ranging in color from white, through china-blue to violet, or sometimes white with blue lobes. Around Dzongri, at 13,200 feet, another very beautiful species presented large, deep violet-blue trumpets on four inch high, erect stems above the turf. So far this one remains unidentified but we did secure plenty of seed.

By now the curious green and black flowered Himalayan Mandrake of our first visit, was in fruit. It was easy to see its affinity with the tomato, for the fruits, as they ripened, looked just like small, orange tomatoes. A fabulous carmine-red honeysuckle with unusual one and one-half inch long tubes flaring into one-half inch wide mini-skirts at the mouth, found by Brian Mathew in June, was now also in fruit, bearing blue-black, damson-like juicy berries an inch long. This had been identified before we returned to Sikkim as *Lonicera cyanocarpa* var. *porphyrantha*.

Golden-flowered saxifrages were everywhere. We easily defined eight separate species though subsequent identification is not yet complete. The largest was about 15 inches high with scarlet-splashed buds opening to appear like buttercups in a meadow. The smallest were no more than inch high mats, dotting the glacial silt just below the glaciers, studded with sessile yellow blossoms merely one-fourth inch in diameter. Another, with tiny, bronze-yellow, star-shaped flowers in clustered heads on two inch stems, we tentatively christened *Saxi fragg stella-aurea* and yet another made hairy, compact, rich green cushions with three fourths inch diameter, golden blooms almost obscuring the foliage.

Colonising the glacial detritus were the grey-green, hairy cushions of *Arenaira glanduliger* with every small shoot ending in a bright pink star. Lower down, but still in the same stony medium, *Eriophytum wallichianum* protected maroon red, salvia-like flowers with silver, elephant ear-shaped leaves held horizontally and in layers on either side of its silky-hairy stems.

Potentilla arbuscula, which together with rhododendron scrub and junipers, served to protect more vulnerable plants from the voracious grazers, came into its own at 16,000 feet where the shrubs were diminished to compact hummocks. It seemed as if to compensate for this loss of stature, the flowers had increased in size for these were huge golden chalices at least twice as large as any I have ever seen on plants in cultivations. Sharing this loftiest outpost of plant life was delphinium, upon which the same spell had been cast. Plants barely four inches high emerged from barren gravel to produce enormous, top-heavy lanterns of soft blue, some three or four to a stem.

By now we had reached our northern-most point where, but for the dense mist, we would have gazed towards the summit of mighty Kanchenjunga just four miles distant. The return journey yielded further surprises and a few oddities. *Potentilla eriocarpa* var. *dissecta* made lace curtains of fine foliage down the sheer cliff faces, its soft yellow, luminous flowers making patterns on the drapes. The noble rhubarb *Rheum nobile* defied the alpine environment to thrust upwards stout spikes a yard high, clothed with large white bracts. A Sillimese lettuce, *Lactuca* sp., protected a head of blue flowers by wrapping around them similar white bracts to form a large snowball

atop two feet high, robust stems. A radish relation spread a flattened umbel, a foot wide, almost at ground level, like a white lace doiley--an incongruous touch of grace in this rugged, rockstrewn landscape.

Three wet weeks had passed during which, despite the unabated monsoon, we had added another couple of hundred herbarium specimens to our earlier efforts and 80 pounds of seed had been harvested. Dry clothes and familiar cuisine were a strong lure back to civilization but I still found myself dragging my feet when the time came to leave that quiet and timeless realm.



Fig. 4: *Cytisus battandierii*
Mike Lee

Mike Lee '84

Fig. 3: *Potentilla*
'Goldfinger'
Margaret Martin



A Pineapple Sundae

Brian Halliwell, Royal Botanic Garden, Kew, England

A number of plants have pineapple as part of their common name, which is indicative of fragrance of some part or their flowers in outline suggest a pineapple.

Pineapple sage, *Salvia rutilans*, is of Mexican origin and may be tender in the colder parts of the Seattle area. Although an evergreen shrub up to about three feet, it can behave in a cold area as a herbaceous plant, for when its top is cut back, new growth will sprout from or below ground level. This plant produces beautiful scarlet flowers in the fall after a warm summer but even if these do not develop, this plant will always attract by the pineapple fragrance of its crushed leaves. Plant in the warmest and sunniest part of the garden, preferably near to a path where its leaves can be easily picked. Propagate annually as a safeguard by cuttings taken from maturing growth in late summer and keep under protection throughout the winter so as to replant if its parent has not survived the winter. It can be enjoyed if grown in a container on a sunny windowsill or porch.

Pineapple broom, *Cytisus battandierii*, from Morocco is the most beautiful of the brooms and quite unlike any other. It makes a large shrub which can reach 12 feet, although it can be kept much lower by judicious pruning after flowering. There are trifoliate leaves, with each leaflet up to three feet long which are covered like the stems with grey hairs. Whilst this is an attractive evergreen shrub at all times, its main beauty is in its flowers which are produced at the ends of side branches in June and July after the spring peak. The outline of these bunches might suggest a pineapple, but its common name comes from the fragrance of the flowers. As long as it is protected from cold winds, this shrub is hardy in all but the coldest winters when planted in a warm sunny position. In hot summers seed may be set, and this are the only method of propagation; sow in early spring in gentle warmth after soaking for 24 hours in cooled boiling water. There can be some variation in performance of seedlings and occasionally there are some which flower infrequently or sparsely.

Pineapple Lily, *Eucomis comosum*, is a bulbous plant from South Africa. It is dormant in winter, not coming into growth until late spring to produce a funnel of undulate broad green leaves sometimes spotted. There is a robust spotted flower stem on which there is a solid spike of blooms nine to 12 inches long with a tuft of green leaves at its apex as in a pineapple. These can be greenish yellow, cream or white with dart anthers and there are new cultivars in which the flowers are pinkish. In a well-drained soil this bulb seems to be quite hardy. Time of flowering is dependent on the summer weather; in a warm, sunny and dry year flowers open in August; when dull, wet and cool they may not appear until September. Seed can be produced from early flowers which germinate readily if sown in gentle heat in spring. Established clumps can be lifted and separated just before new growth begins in April.

Gifts To Urban Horticulture

Joyce P. Brewster, Center for Urban Horticulture

The Center for Urban Horticulture has recently received three major gifts that will support work on three different areas of the new Union Bay campus.

In January, Mrs. John P. McVay contributed funds for design and construction of the courtyard within the main building complex. A striking outdoor room composed of plantings and paving materials, the McVay Courtyard will provide weather-protected space for such horticultural functions as plant sales, exhibits, workshops, and receptions.

In February, the Burlington Northern Foundation, through its president Donald North, awarded the Center a \$25,000 grant to support construction of the multipurpose conference hall. With funding from a variety of other sources as well, the conference hall represents the sort of community project in which the Foundation likes to be involved. The building will house all the Center's public-outreach activities and is scheduled for completion in the fall.

And in March, Mrs. Charles W. Cole made a gift that will fund design and partial implementation of a planting plan for landscaping around the buildings and parking area. Mrs. Cole's gift will enable architects Jones and Jones, experts in landscape design, to produce a precise and detailed plan for making these public plantings a showcase for the Center's horticultural expertise. Completion of this plan will allow the Center to begin accepting gifts of plants from nurseries and individuals.

The Center's new home is being built entirely with donated funds. These three important gifts bring the Union Bay campus significantly closer to full realization.



Visiting the seed rack of the local garden store is like eating half a meal. There are plenty of annual seeds, but where are the perennials? Finding seeds, bulbs, and live plants has now been made easier by two publications. *Flower and Garden*, the bimonthly magazine published in Kansas City, devotes its January issue to describing new flower and vegetable hybrids, plus a list of mail order sources for plant categories. Better yet is *The Avant Gardener*, a monthly newsletter costing \$15 per year and published by Horticultural Data Processors, Box 489, New York, New York 10028. The January and February 1984 issues contain nine pages listing seed, plant, and bulb sources in the United States, Canada and Great Britain. One of our favorite catalogues is published by Thompson and Morgan, Box 100, Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727. Lavishly illustrated, the 192-page booklet contains an excellent variety of perennials and alpiners.

Mark Houser



N.O.H.S. NOTES

SUMMER 1984

Supplement to the Horticulture Northwest

Margaret Martin, Editor

President's Letter

Dear Members and Friends:

At a board meeting early last year, Fransi Lile, the Annual Meeting Chairman, made the suggestion that the 1984 annual meeting be combined with one of the lectures of the lecture series. The Board went along with the idea, and the meeting of May 22 was the result. From the excellent speaker, Dr. Peter Valder, to the delicious refreshments provided by Fransi Lile and her committee, the meeting was a success.

One item of business that went by so smoothly and swiftly that it might be hard to recognize the amount of work involved was the changes in the by-laws. Thoughtful work, and well done, by Kathy Carey and her committee with helpful counsel from our parliamentarian, Willis Collins.

A lot of people worked hard at N.O.H.S. affairs last year--some will be stepping down from their jobs and others will continue--in any case, it was difficult to acknowledge and adequately thank them all. It was a great year; my sincerest thanks.

There are three important events coming up this summer and early fall: the Fern Sale in mid-June, the official opening of the Center for Urban Horticulture at the end of September, and the Fall Plant Sale in late September. Watch for the announcements of these events. We are planning to hold the Fall Plant Sale on the grounds of the new Center. This will be the first time we have held it there, so there may be some problems to work out. The Plant Sale is very important to us, and we hope it is the beginning of a long, interesting and fruitful tradition. We will need help.

When my wife, Grace, and I returned home recently after a trip of several weeks, we were shocked and saddened by the news of the death of our friend, Joe Witt. There are several people whose names are almost synonymous for the Washington Park Arboretum; Joe's is one of them. I had first worked with Joe in the early 1960's on outdoor education classes for Seattle school children in the Arboretum, then inservice classes for Seattle teachers. Later, when I was serving as President of the Arboretum Foundation, we joined forces in an almost constant confrontation with a group of people that seemed bent on turning the Arboretum into a grassy, ordinary park. Quiet, always helpful, always cooperative, always knowledgeable, we will miss him, we surely will.

Sincerely,

John Putman
President

INTERNATIONAL BONSAI MEET SET

FOR SEATTLE ON JULY 4

The Puget Sound Bonsai Association will host the International Bonsai Congress at the Westin Hotel in Seattle on July 4 through July 8. Demonstrations in the art and techniques of bonsai will be presented in the Grand Ballroom of the Westin.

The conference will feature speakers from around the world, and will offer participants live demonstrations performed by notable bonsai masters. On Sunday, July 8, a Farewell Brunch will feature Dr. Harold Tukey, Director for the Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington. Dr. Tukey will speak on the subject, "Plants For People: For Fun and Function."

Admission to the lecture-demonstration is \$15 and can be purchased at the Westin Hotel in the Grand Ballroom Foyer. Admission to the Brunch featuring Dr. Tukey is \$25 and must be arranged before June 25 by writing IBC '84, Registration Chairman, Post Office Box 15437, Wedgewood Station, Seattle, Washington 98115.



Membership Application
NORTHWEST ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Policy:

To give financial support to the University of Washington Arboreta program and to other horticultural education endeavors.

Membership activities encompass:

Lecture Series, Study Groups, Annual Fern and Plant Sales, Tours of gardens of horticultural interest, Horticultural Journal.

(Please fill in form as you wish information to appear in yearbook.)

Mr. _____ Mrs. _____ Ms. _____ Miss _____

Name _____ (First Name) _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City & State _____ Zip _____

New Member (date) _____ Or Renewal (date) _____

(Membership renewals will come due January, May and September,
Whichever month is closest to date of Membership Application.)

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
Northwest Ornamental Horticultural Society

MAILING ADDRESS:
University of Washington Arboreta XD10
Seattle, Washington 98195

TELEPHONE: 543-8800

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP: (Please check one)

_____ Life	\$500.00
_____ Supporting	\$50.00 to \$100.00
_____ Contributing	\$25.00 to \$ 50.00
_____ Active (Individual)	\$ 15.00
_____ Group or Family	\$ 20.00
_____ Nursery (Member Listing)	\$ 20.00

NORTHWEST ORNAMENTAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING

May 22, 1984

Annual Meeting held at Museum of History and Industry at 11:45 a.m.

Excellent lecture and slide presentation by Dr. Peter Valder entitled, "The Extraordinary Flora of Australia." Following the lecture the meeting was called to order by President John Putnam who introduced and thanked all committee chairmen for excellent support.

Financial Report. Taylor read general annual report. Attached.

Membership. 14 life members and 600 active members.

Bylaw Change. Carey: MSP to accept changes as presented. Name of this organization now is Northwest Horticultural Society.

Dr. Tukey. Announced Memorial Fund established for Jo Witt in care of University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture or through NOHS. Department has now occupied new building. September 27 and 28 will be dedication along with completion of Conference Center. Dr. Tukey invited NOHS to use same.

Putnam. Presented check for \$10,000 to Dr. Tukey.

Nominating Committee. Chairman Boyd: Presented slate of officers for 1984-1985 and new board members. MSP unanimously to accept. Copy attached.

Putnam. Meeting was adjourned at 12:10 with invitation to all to partake in light luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanore Doland
Recording Secretary

Next Board Meeting, 10:00 a.m., June 18, 1984
at Center for Urban Horticulture
Members always welcome

Officers (one-year term)

President	Mr. John A. Putnam
First Vice President	Mrs. Herschell Boyd (Marili)
Second Vice President	Mrs. James R. Scott (Nell)
Third Vice President	Mrs. Barbara Lindberg
Treasurer	Mrs. Arthur R. Taylor (Marilyn)
Recording Secretary	Mrs. John A. Moore (Emily)
Corresponding Secretary	Mrs. Ward M. Doland
Past President	Miss Katherine Carey

Board of Directors Term to 1985

Mrs. Ward Doland	Mrs. Barbara Lindberg
Mrs. Harry C. Isaacson, Jr.	Mrs. Brian O. Mulligan
Mr. Peter Johanson	Mrs. Arthur R. Taylor
Mrs. Arthur Kruckeberg	Mrs. Leonard Wilcox
Mrs. Charles E. Lile	

Term to 1986

Mrs. Rodney B. Allen	Mrs. James H. Madison
Mrs. Herschell Boyd	Mrs. John A. Moore
Mrs. Joseph L. Carman	Mrs. John A. Putnam
Mrs. William L. Gorman	Dr. James Warren
Mrs. Chauncey E. Hazen	

Term to 1987

Mrs. Gordon B. Anderson	Mrs. J. C. Michel
Mrs. Trudy N. Baldwin	Mrs. E. L. Pierce Milholland
Miss Katherine Carey	Mrs. Robert Mullarky
Mrs. Leo P. Cunningham	Mrs. Richard E. Parks
Mrs. Alexander M. Fisk	Mrs. Harold B. Tukey

HORTICULTURE NORTHWEST DEADLINES

Please send all NOHS organizational material, calendar of events, notices, etc., to: Newsletter Chairman, Margaret Martin, 4208 N.E. 74th, Seattle, Washington 98115.

Spring issue deadline: February 1st for March 15th publication; material to cover March 15 through June 15th.

Summer issue deadline: May 1st for June 15th publication; material to cover June 15th through September 15th.

Fall issue deadline: August 1st for September 15th publication; material to cover September 15th through December 15th.

Winter issue deadline: October 15th (early because of the holidays) for December 15th publication; material to cover December 15th through March 15th.

REVISED
May, 1984

BY-LAWS
FOR THE
NORTHWEST HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this Corporation shall be Northwest Horticultural Society--abbreviated N.O.H.S.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

- Section 1. To operate on a nonprofit basis solely for benevolent, charitable, scientific, and educational purposes, conducive to the well-being of the community and the public.
- Section 2. To promote, participate in, and provide financial support to the University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture, its arboreta, and other horticultural fields.
- Section 3. To provide for broad horticultural programs which may include lectures, exhibits, plant sales, garden tours, study groups, seed exchanges, and related events to increase horticultural knowledge.
- Section 4. To sponsor and support a Northwest journal for horticulture.
- Section 5. To stimulate the interest of gardeners in the wealth of material which can be grown in the Northwest, and to provide information on propagation and culture.
- Section 6. To maintain an Educational Fund, the interest from which fund to be used to further horticultural education and related activities.
- Section 7. To engage in all lawful activities that are in furtherance of one or more of the general purposes or objectives of the Northwest Horticultural Society.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Composition and Rights. Membership in this Corporation shall be on an annual basis. Members shall pay dues annually to the Northwest Horticultural Society on the anniversary of their membership.
- Section 2. Membership Categories. Membership categories shall be determined by the Board of Directors and shall be used by all elements of the Corporation.
- a. Life Membership may be extended to persons for dedication, or service to the Corporation, or monetary contributions as determined by the Board of Directors. No annual dues are required.
 - b. Supporting Membership may be extended to persons contributing monetarily to the Corporation as determined by the Board of Directors.
 - c. Contributing Membership may be extended to persons contributing monetarily to the Corporation as determined by the Board of Directors.
 - d. Active Membership may be extended to persons paying annual dues to the Corporation as determined by the Board of Directors.
 - e. Group or Family Membership may be extended to persons paying annual dues to the Corporation as determined by the Board of Directors.
 - f. Nursery Membership may be extended to accredited nurserymen paying annual dues to the Corporation as determined by the Board of Directors.
 - g. Courtesy Membership may be extended to persons professionally associated with the University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture and their spouses. This class shall be exempt from annual dues and shall not have membership responsibilities.

- h. Honorary Members may be chosen from within or without the membership. Such members shall be elected by the Board of Directors in recognition of outstanding service to the Corporation, to the University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture, or to other horticultural endeavors. This category of membership shall be exempt from annual dues and shall not have membership responsibilities.

Section 3. Voting Rights. All members defined in Section 2 of Article III shall be entitled to cast one vote at any election or on any subject which comes before any annual or special meeting of the Corporation.

- a. Group and/or Family membership shall be entitled to two representatives with two voting rights.
- b. The vote may be cast in person or by written proxy.

Section 4. Termination of Membership. The Board of Directors, at a regular or special meeting, may suspend or expel any member for cause after appropriate hearing.

- a. Any suspended or expelled member may be reinstated by a majority vote of all members of the Board of Directors upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Directors may prescribe.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS OF THE CORPORATION

Section 1. Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Corporation shall be held prior to June 1 at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors.

- a. At the Annual Meeting, new members of the Board of Directors and officers of the Corporation shall be chosen from among the members of the Corporation.
- b. The Secretary of the Corporation shall give at least ten (10) days written notice of the Annual meeting to each Corporation member stating the time, place, and purpose of the meeting.

Section 2. Special Meeting. Special Corporation meetings may be called at any time by the President, and, in the President's absence, by a Vice-President, or any three Directors, provided that the Secretary shall give at least ten (10) days written notice of the meeting to each member of the Corporation stating the time, place, and purpose of the meeting.

Section 3. Quorum. At any membership meeting, twenty-five (25) members shall constitute a quorum for any and all purposes. When a quorum is present at any Corporation meeting, business may be conducted until adjournment, even though a quorum may not be maintained.

ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. General Powers. The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a Board of Directors which shall be composed of not less than twenty-two (22) members of the Corporation. Every elected Board Member is entitled to one vote.

Section 2. Meetings.

- a. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held once each month in at least eight (8) months of the year.
- b. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by, or, at the request of the President, or by five (5) of the Directors. Notice of any special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least five (5) days prior to the meeting by written notice.
- c. Quorum. One-third and no less than twelve (12) members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board.

- d. Unexplained Absence. Any Director who is absent from three (3) consecutive meetings without having given prior notice to the President shall be regarded as resigned from the Board.

Section 3. Tenure and Qualification. The Board of Directors shall be elected from the members of the Corporation.

- a. The election of the Directors shall be held at each Annual Meeting of the members of the Corporation. One-third of the Directors shall be elected annually to serve for a term of three (3) years. No Director shall be eligible to serve more than two (2) consecutive terms. A Director begins to serve on the Board immediately upon election to the Board.
- b. In addition, the immediate past President shall serve in an advisory capacity, regardless of Board status.
- c. In the event of failure to hold an election of Directors at any Annual Meeting, or to hold an Annual Meeting as provided by these By-Laws, election of the Directors may be held at a special meeting of the members called for that purpose.

Section 4. Power and Authority of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have full authority:

- a. To appoint and remove, at its discretion, all Officers of the Corporation.
- b. To make such expenditures as the Board deems expedient, provided, however, that the members of the Corporation by resolution adopted by a two-thirds vote at any meeting of members, may restrict the amount of expenditures of which can be made by the Board without prior approval by the members.
- c. To accept on behalf of the Corporation any contribution, gift, or device for the general purpose or any special purpose of the Corporation.
- d. To manage and conduct the affairs and business of the Corporation and generally do and perform or cause to be done and performed any and every act which the Corporation may lawfully do and perform.
- e. To make contributions of the funds of the Corporation to the Board of Regents of the University of Washington for use in furthering the development, advancement, and maintenance of the University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture, or to other horticultural endeavors.

Section 5. Honorary/Advisory Board. The Board of Directors may appoint, without voting rights, Honorary/Advisory Board members on an annual basis.

Section 6. Vacancies. Except as otherwise provided, vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled by election by the remaining Board members from candidates presented by the Nominating Committee. Such elections may take place at any regular or special Board meeting. A Director thus elected to fill any vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of his predecessor, provided his election shall be ratified by vote of the membership at the next Annual Meeting.

Section 7. Executive Committee. The Board of Directors may appoint an Executive Committee composed of at least eight (8) of its own membership. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and Past President. The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may appoint no more than four (4) additional members. One-third of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by this committee. Between meetings of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee shall have the specific authority provided for such a committee by the provisions of RCW 24.16.090 as amended.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Section 1. Officers. The Officers of the Corporation shall be a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Third Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Section 2. Election of Officers. The Officers of the Corporation shall be elected annually by the membership at its regular Annual Meeting and take office immediately upon election.

Section 3. Term of Office. Officers shall serve for a term of one year or until their successors have been elected.

Section 4. Vacancies. An Officer vacancy, because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or otherwise, may be filled by the Board of Directors, voting on candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee, for the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 5. Duties.

a. President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation. The President:

- (1) shall preside at meetings of the Corporation, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee;
- (2) Shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee;
- (3) shall appoint all Committee Chairmen;
- (4) shall sign all obligations authorized by the Board of Directors.

b. First Vice-President shall assist the President and assume the duties of the President in his absence. The First Vice-President:

- (1) shall perform such duties as may be assigned to the office.

c. Second Vice-President shall assist the President and assume the duties of the President in the absence of both the President and First Vice-President. The Second Vice-President:

- (1) shall perform such duties as may be assigned to the office.

d. Third Vice-President shall assist the President and assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President, First Vice-President, and Second Vice-President. The Third Vice-President:

- (1) shall perform such duties as may be assigned to the office.

e. Recording Secretary shall keep a record of the approved minutes of all meetings of the Corporation's Board of Directors and Executive Committee meetings. The Recording Secretary:

- (1) shall at all times keep By-Laws available and up to date;
- (2) shall send notices of all meetings of the Corporation's Board of Directors and Executive Committee meetings.

f. Corresponding Secretary shall attend to the correspondence of the Corporation unless otherwise directed. The Corresponding Secretary:

- (1) shall acknowledge all contributions and memorials.

g. Treasurer shall receive and hold all funds belonging to the Corporation. The Treasurer:

- (1) shall pay all bills submitted and approved by the President and Chairman of the Committee incurring the bill;
- (2) be responsible for satisfying all governmental reports and forms;

- (3) shall keep full and accurate books of accounts and shall be responsible for having the account books of the Corporation audited annually. After approval by the Board of Directors, the audit report shall be filed with the records of the Corporation and a summary sent to the Membership;
- (4) shall be a member of the Finance Committee.

ARTICLE VII - NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND ELECTIONSSection 1. Composition and Appointment.

- a. At the next meeting of the Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting, the President, with the approval of the Board, shall appoint a Nominating Chairman, who will in turn, with the approval of the Board, choose five (5) members: two (2) from the Board of Directors and three (3) from the general membership.
- b. No person shall be Chairman of the Nominating Committee more frequently than once every five (5) years.
- c. The Nominating Committee shall nominate one candidate for each office and one for each vacancy on the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee shall make its report to the Board one month (30 days) before the Annual Meeting and the Corresponding Secretary shall mail this list of candidates to each member of the Corporation with the notice of the Annual Meeting. The President of the meeting shall also call for additional nominations from the membership.
- d. The Nominating Committee shall also be responsible for nominating candidates as promptly as possible to fill any vacancies which may occur, on the Board of Directors or among the Officers during the year.

Section 2. Elections shall be by voice vote unless additional nominations have been made from the floor, when a written ballot shall be used. A majority of votes cast shall elect.

ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES

Section 1. Appointment. The chairmen of all standing and special committees except the University Liaison Committee, as named herein, shall be appointed by the President in consultation with the Board of Directors. Each chairman shall select the members of his own committee, in consultation with the President. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Section 2. Standing Committees. Standing and/or special committees may be appointed as deemed advisable by the President in consultation with the Board of Directors.

- a. Executive Committee, between meetings of the Board of Directors, shall have the specific authority provided for such a committee by the provisions of RCW 24.16.090 as amended.
- b. Finance and Budget Committee shall be responsible for expenditures and direct the care of both principal and income for all funds unless otherwise provided for.
- c. Program Committee shall coordinate all educational and fund-raising activities of the Corporation, and the Chairman of this committee shall sit with the Finance Committee.
- d. Membership Committee shall collect dues from and send renewal notices to the Membership. It shall keep the Membership list current for the Corporation.
- e. Nominating Committee shall nominate a slate of Officers and the entire Board of Directors for Northwest Horticultural Society. It shall also nominate a replacement for any of these positions if vacated during the year.
- f. By-Laws Committee shall be responsible for amendments or revisions and distribution to the Membership of By-Law changes voted by the Board of Directors.
- g. Special Committees may be created by the Board of Directors as the need arises.

- Section 3. University Liaison Committee shall be composed of the President, as chairman, and at least two (2) other members of the Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of this committee to maintain communications between the Officers of the University of Washington, the administration of the University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture, and the N.O.H.S. Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX - BUDGET AND FINANCE

- Section 1. Finance Committee Composition. The Finance Committee shall include the President, the Treasurer, the Program Chairman and such other members of the Board of Directors as are appointed by the chairman of the Finance Committee.
- Section 2. Fiscal Year of the Corporation shall be from January 1 to December 31 of each year.
- Section 3. Books and Records. The Corporation shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of its members, Board of Directors, and committees having any authority of the Board of Directors, and shall keep at the registered or principal office a record giving the names and addresses of the members entitled to vote. All books regarding minutes and financial records of the Corporation may be inspected by any member, or his agent or attorney, for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.
- Section 4. Expenditures shall be accounted for by normal business procedures and approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X - PERSONAL INTEREST AND DISSOLUTION

- Section 1. Interest of Members. No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any private individual or member within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code as now enacted or hereinafter amended or recodified.
- Section 2. In the event the Corporation is dissolved, all of its assets remaining after the payment of its outstanding debts shall be distributed to the Board of Regents of the University of Washington to be used by them in furthering the development, advancement and maintenance of the University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture.

ARTICLE XI - SEAL

The Corporation shall not have a seal. No seal shall be required of it in connection with the execution of any instruments or documents. The official logo shall be used in all appropriate cases.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

- Section 1. Amendments. These By-Laws may be amended, altered, or revised by a majority vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the members if notice of the proposed alteration or amendment is contained in the notice of the meeting.
- Section 2. Review. The By-Laws shall be reviewed by-annually or by a By-Law Committee. Any changes shall be recommended to the Board of Directors.
- Section 3. No proposed amendment to the By-Laws shall be voted on by the Board of Directors with less than thirty (30) days opportunity to consider the action.
- Section 4. There shall be a copy of the By-Laws available at every meeting of the Corporation and the Secretary shall have a current copy available at all meetings.

ARTICLE XIII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

- Section 1. The rules contained in the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised, shall govern all meetings of members where those rules are not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws, or special rules of order of the Corporation.

N.O.H.S. SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 15
Bellevue Square
Friday, 9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

June 20
3501 N.E. 41st
Wednesday, 10 a.m.

NOTE

July 14
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
\$25.00

July 17 and July 19
Tuesday, Thursday
6 - 9 p.m.

July 21
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

August 7
Tuesday, 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
\$8

August 11
Saturday, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
\$15

August 15
Wednesday, 7 - 9 p.m.
August 18
Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

LOOKING AHEAD

September 26
Wednesday, 10:30 a.m.
Museum of History and Industry

N.O.H.S. Fern Sale.
Rare varieties of these beautiful foliage plants.

Free Public Lectures.
"A Colonist's Look at the British Horticulture," by Professor John Wott, University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture Building.

During July and August, the Arboretum lectures are discontinued and will resume in September.

Urban Horticulture/Arboretum Courses.
Registration: 545-8033.
Tour of Perennial Gardens, Tour Leader, Dennis Thompson, co-founder of the Northwest Hardy Plant Society. The tour will take in herbaceous borders, primroses and rock plants.

"Summer Cuttings". Doug Ewing. Learn the basic techniques for summer propagation by cuttings of herbaceous perennials, azaleas, rhododendrons, heathers, and other broadleaved evergreens.

Bedding Plant Tour: Dr. John A. Wott Van M. Bobbit. A visit to some of Seattle's most colorful summer flower plantings. On-site discussion of plantings.

"Outstanding Vegetables for Late Summer and Fall." Instructor: Angelo M. Pellegrinni, the author of The Food Lover's Garden, join him for a discussion of some of the not-so-common vegetables for the late season harvest. Culinary uses will be covered.

"Tree Pruning for Homeowners."
Instructors: Dr. Donald Hanley and Alden Buckles. This course will teach the proper techniques for pruning trees and will cover how to decide when pruning is needed.

"Planning the Edible Landscape".
Daphne Lewis. Students will study photos and site plans to devise an edible landscape for a suburban lot.

Late September, N.O.H.S. Plant Sale.

"Lesser Known Great Gardens of Britain".
The Third Perry Johnson Memorial Lecture.
Peter Coats, the well-known writer on horticulture subjects. The garden editor of the English House and Garden and the popular "Flowers in History".

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
June 5, 1984

BARKHURST, Robert M. 2256 Yukon Harbor Road S.E. Port Orchard, WA 98366	871-0469	JENSEN, Mrs. Latrina E. 618 36th East Seattle, WA 98112	323-5691
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CARRUTH, Susan M. 18544 26th Avenue N.E. Seattle, WA 98155	No telephone	MACLERAN, Margaret 4708 - 154th Place S.E., Bellevue, WA 98006	747-1899
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COLE, Dale W. College of Forest Resources, AR-10 University of Washington Seattle, WA 98195	545-1946	MILHOLLAND, MRS. E. L. Pierce (Jane) Box #1 Medina, WA 98039	454-9107
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CROCCO, Joe 101 A-15290-103 A Ave. Surrey, B.C., Canada V3R 7AZ	604-585-2225	MILLER, Ed 7320 - 80th Street East, Puyallup, WA	848-3322 98371
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ELANDER, Blair R. 25910 - 29th Ave. S., D104, Kent, WA	941-9377 98032	MULDER, Mrs. Gordon (Mary Ellen) 23 Holly Hill Drive, Mercer Island, WA	232-8119 98040
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EMMERSON, Kathleen 1205 S.W. Harbor, Lincoln City, OR	503-994-2071 97367	PHELPS, Constance The Highlands, Seattle, WA	365-2514 98177
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ERICKSON, Mrs. Cheri 120 - 124th S.W., #H1, Everett, WA	347-3942 98204	RED'S RHODIES 15920 S.W. Oberst Lane, Sherwood, OR	503-625-6331 97140
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ERICSON, Eric KMW Box 1051, Karlstad, Sweden	01-46-54-1152-60 S-651 15	TAGGART, Mrs. Raymond (Doris) 6445 N.E. 130th Place, Kirkland, WA	823-5608 98034
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GARDEN CARPENTRY Ed Kopp and Joan McWilliams 7725 - 12th S.W., Seattle, WA	767-9368 98106	TEMPLE, Mrs. Carolyn C. 1404 41st Avenue E. Seattle, WA	325-3191 98112
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Report of Sabbatical Leave

January 3 to May 20, 1983

Harrison L. Flint, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana

After 20 years working with landscape plants in eastern North America, culminating in publication of the reference book, Landscape Plants for Eastern North America (Wiley-Interscience, 1983) it was time for me to become personally acquainted with the far wider range of plants that can be used in mild maritime climates. I had come to know some of this diversity indirectly through reading, and some vicariously through the shared experiences of former students, but my first-hand experience in such a climate was limited to two brief visits to England. Since I had not even visited western North America (as a New Englander, I thought I was "going West" when I came to Indiana 15 years ago), it seemed doubly appropriate to carry out a sabbatical leave in the coastal Pacific Northwest. During this time I traveled widely in the region, using as a base the Center for Urban Horticulture at the University of Washington.

Objectives

My primary activity of studying and photographing landscape plants in the Pacific Northwest was carried out to further my own knowledge and to enrich my advanced course in woody plants (HORT 527), which serves the need of students in our Professional Plantsman Program (PLANTPRO) (Appendix A). Graduates of this 12-year old program have found employment in botanical gardens and related institutions from British Columbia to Southern California, Arizona, and New Mexico, and from New England to Florida. Students have completed internships in Belgium, France, Germany, Japan, and the United Kingdom, as well as in a number of U.S. botanical gardens, and have carried out advanced study in Hong Kong and The Philippines. The broad geographical orientation of this program makes it necessary for me to continue to grow in my own knowledge of worldwide plant communities and to bring my experience with diversity of plants to the classroom.

A second objective of the sabbatical has been to learn more about the emerging U.S.D.A. network of clonal plant germplasm repositories. Two stations of this network are complete and operating, one of them located near Oregon State University in Corvallis. I spent several days each month working with the staff of that repository. My research interests at Purdue have been closely related to this area of activity (Appendix B), and this involvement with the germplasm repository has helped me in determining the direction of my future research.

Other objectives of the sabbatical leave were to write and lecture, and to carry our liaison with a variety of horticultural organizations in the Pacific Northwest.

The Trip West

The drive to Seattle, by way of the Southwest, offered opportunity for additional learning about the flora and geography of that area, as well as for

lectures, seminars, and courtesy calls at other universities. This three week trip proved to be an education in itself. I gained many impressions, some expected, some not. The common theme running through them all was that of water as the ultimate natural resource, and a deep sense of the limitations that we face in this country in the future, if economic growth and development continue even at the currently reduced rate.

Mammoth engineering projects to conserve and direct water have made and continue to make agricultural and economic development of much of the West possible. Perhaps the most current of these, the Northern Arizona Project, whereby large quantities of water (some presently going to Southern California) will be channeled to Southern Arizona, is expected to do little more than support near-term growth in that state. An indication of this is that horticulturists and landscape architects at the University of Arizona are actively researching new landscape plants to be used in "dryland landscaping", which will become dominant soon at the current rate of increase in cost of irrigation water.

Preoccupation with rapidly growing problems of water supply in the West has implications for the Midwest. On the positive side it suggests that states such as Indiana with relatively abundant water should have encouraging prospects. On the other side, it warns that even in such areas we cannot take water for granted, but must continue to husband this resource carefully--perhaps more so than at present.

As I traveled from the Sonora Desert of Arizona to the Northwest, the transition from arid climates to the "rain forests" of the Olympic Peninsula of Washington was most dramatic. Yet, even the favored Puget Sound area experiences a two-month summer drought, making irrigation necessary for many horticultural plants. Yet, in spite of that vestige of California's Mediterranean climate, the Pacific Northwest has the most amenable climate for a wide range of woody landscape plants that exists in the continental United States.

University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture

This program began about three years ago, is unique for at least two reasons. It brings the study of horticulture into a major non-land-grant university in an unprecedented way, and it attempts for the first time to define the area of urban horticulture, with all its ramifications (Appendix C).

The newness of the Center puts it at an exciting stage in its development. Yet part of it is not new; the University of Washington Arboretum, a world famous collection of woody plants, falls administratively within the Center for Urban Horticulture. All of this, added to a most enthusiastic welcome from the Center's imaginative Director, Dr. Harold B. Tukey, and his staff, convinced me that Seattle was the logical center for my sabbatical activities. In retrospect, it is clear that I could have made no better arrangement.

While in residence, I had the opportunity to interact with the Center's staff and students in several ways. I was given office space with graduate

students, and so had frequent interaction, informally through conversation and campus "plant walks", and formally through seminars and serving as an adjunct member of the Studies Committee, of one graduate student whose research was in my sphere of interest. I also spent considerable time with the curatorial staff of the Arboretum, and conducted two half-day workshops there for the general public. Other presentations included a seminar, a public lecture, and a classroom presentation in the landscape architecture program.

During the entire time spent at the Center, I was in frequent professional and social contact with its director and staff, and became familiar with the philosophy and goals of this, the first academic program in the U.S. specifically designed to deal with horticulture in urban areas. This experience will be helpful as we discuss the extent of our future urban emphasis in horticulture at Purdue.

University of Washington Arboretum

This superb collection of woody plants from many parts of the world occupies 200 acres within the city limits of Seattle. It operates as part of the City Parks Department, is professionally staffed by the University, and carries out its educational and research missions with the substantial assistance of a few major private donors and a large group of interested individuals who are generous with both time and funds. The Arboretum, began about 50 years ago, has recently become part of the Center for Urban Horticulture.

Over its first half-century, the Arboretum has experienced periods of great financial stress and uncertainty. Yet it has been favored by unusual continuity in direction and curational maintenance. As a result, its plant collections are among the finest I have encountered, in breadth, in quality of individual plants, and in scientific documentation. I was fortunate in being able to spend considerable time with two individuals who have contributed greatly to the excellence of the collections, the late Joseph A. Witt, curator and 30-year staff member, and Brian O. Mulligan, Director of the Arboretum for 25 years and active in research for more than another decade since his "retirement".

National Clonal Plant Germplasm Repository

The Corvallis, Oregon repository is one of two presently operational, in a network planned to cover the continental U.S., Hawaii, and Puerto Rico (Appendix D). Its responsibilities include several small fruit and nut crops, hops, and mint. Several of these plants are also of interest to landscape horticulture.

One of my objectives in spending about three weeks of my leave there was to become familiar with methods of assembling, preserving, and disseminating clonal plant germplasm. Germplasm already in the repository was in the form of growing plants in field and greenhouse, and tissue-cultured propagules. The repository was well-equipped and well-staffed. When its program and that of all the other repositories in the planned network are operational at full scale, they will greatly increase and systematize preservation of desirable genotypes and acquisition of new material from all over the world. The program bodes well for efforts in bedding of horticultural crops for many years to come.

A second objective was to assist the curator of the repository, Dr. Otto L. Jahn, in liaison with other agencies and organizations. For example, we were able to assemble a list of individuals interested in germplasm of native hazelnut (*Corylus cornuta* ssp. *californica*) in the U.S.D.A. Soil Conservation Service, Department of Geography at the University of Oregon, and Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University, and to facilitate cooperation among these individuals and the germplasm repository. In another instance, liaison with the U.S. Forest Service regional office at Corvallis uncovered an extensive floristic survey that will be useful in future surveys of other native woody genera of interest, such as *Fragaria* (Strawberries), *Ribes* (currants), *Rubus* (bramble fruits), and *Vaccinium* (blueberries, cranberries, huckleberries).

Botanical Garden, University of British Columbia

This young but already impressive botanical garden will one day be in the top rank of botanical gardens in the world, if present plans are carried out. I had long wanted to spend time there, as I had heard much about its excellence. Thanks in part to the hospitality of the Charles Tubesing family, I was able to spend close to two weeks in the Vancouver area. Mr. Tubesing is a former student in PLANTPRO (Purdue, 1975), now on the staff of the U.B.C. Botanical Garden, in charge of propagation and rearing of young plants for the collections, and an active plant breeder as well. Dr. Roy L. Taylor, Director of the U.B.C.-B.G. was also most welcoming, and invited my participation as a panel member in their annual evaluation of new plants, part of their Plant Introduction Scheme. This courtesy also afforded the opportunity for me to meet several key persons in the British Columbia and Washington landscape industry.

The U.B.C.-B.G. is not the only fine collection of plants in the Vancouver area. The Van Dusen Botanical Gardens is also most impressive, as are the large plant collections in Queen Elizabeth and Stanley Park. In aggregate, the parks and gardens of Vancouver comprise one of the greatest concentrations of interesting landscape plants that I have yet seen. Maintenance of plant collections there was on a par with what I had seen in England--no accident, since so many fine gardeners have immigrated to Vancouver from the British Isles.

The Seattle Horticultural Community

Considering the gardens, research institutions, private foundations, community of professionals, influential individuals, and the amazing concentration of highly enthusiastic and sophisticated vocational horticulturists, Seattle and its environs provided the largest and most impressive horticultural community that I have encountered in North America. The high proficiency of those in the "amateur" ranks could well have been intimidating had I not been there primarily for the purpose of my own learning. In fact, on those occasions when I was invited to make presentations, the inevitable question always arose: "What can a midwesterner bring to this horticultural near-paradise that will be new, different, or thought-provoking?" The best tentative answer that I could find is that in the eastern states we may be a bit farther ahead in the practice of the science of Horticulture, apart from the art of horticulture, where we lag. Application of such agriculturally related knowledge as soil science, plant

protection, and environmental plant physiology needs greater emphasis in the Seattle area, where the science of taxonomic botany and the art of practical horticulture have flourished, together with a strong British flavor. This may be the result, in part, of having a land-grant institution located at the opposite end of the state of Washington, thus able to offer limited outreach over the years in the Seattle area. With the developing program of the University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture, in cooperation with the Washington State University Extension Service, this need for greater emphasis on the science of horticulture will soon be met.

An especially happy dimension of the leave was discovering that the Pacific Northwest has been a magnet for a substantial number of Purdue graduates in horticulture and landscape architecture. Five of those that I encountered had worked as laboratory instructors in my basic course in woody landscape plants.

Before ending this report, I must say a few words about the people of Seattle. Accustomed to hearing complaints about the weather, cultural milieu, or social climate of places where I have lived, I was taken aback that residents of Seattle could apparently find nothing wrong with the place (not even the weather!). Even my limited ingrained cynicism was enough to warn me that sooner or later I would uncover a few disgruntled residents. Perhaps if I had stayed longer I would have, but at the end of my few months, I could only conclude the Seattle-ites must universally agree that they have good thing in their city--and that they are probably quite right.

In summary, this sabbatical leave has given me immense refreshment, a joyful professional and cultural experience, a broad look at part of the American West, and more ideas that I will likely have time to make full use of in my teaching, writing, and research.



NOHS SEED EXCHANGE

Marge Baird, Assistant Director of the Seed Exchange, will host the Propagating and Transplanting Bee at her home on July 17. The event will begin at 10:30 a.m. Mrs. Baird resides at 8928 Northeast 33rd in Bellevue.

Some seeds of interesting and unusual plants ripen early. Be on the lookout for them! Seeds collected when fresh have a higher germination rate. Transport them in envelopes, carefully closed, or in paper bags (not plastic). Small matchboxes are ideal. When you arrive home, spread out the seed to dry and open; then place them in tissue, insert in plastic bag, and store them in the refrigerator. Or, send them to the Seed Exchange Committee right away! When you send in your seeds, be sure to state precisely where they were collected--garden, wilds, etc. Seeds from berrying plants are easier to extract when fruits are almost dry. Send to:

NOHS Seed Exchange
 Sylvia Duryee, Director
 8928 Northeast 33rd
 Bellevue, Washington 98004



Asarum Caudatum

Kathi Doering Bulfin

As a high school student I spent one summer exploring the shores of the Fox River in North Eastern Wisconsin. Looking for anything noteworthy, I stumbled upon three wonderful finds. One was the ruins of a settler's house lost to the flood waters. Another was the skeletal remains of a small deer, and the third was an intriguing plant with shiny heart-shaped leaves that carpeted the woodland floor.

This lush groundcover enticed me to pick up a botanical key for the first time. In less than two hours of wading through pages of taxonomical lingo, I discovered I had a member of the Birthwort or *Aristolochiaceae* Family... an *Asarum*, probably *A. canadense*. Fifteen years later I have decided to pursue my initial interest a little further and research a West coast cousin, *A. caudatum*.

The word *asarum* (Greek) was a name given a European species. *Caudatum* means tailed (or, having a tail), which refers to the three long "tails" that grace the flowers. These long-lasting blooms, which are hidden under the leaves, appear in early Spring, approximately April to July.

With flowers growing so close to the ground it has lead some enthusiasts to speculate that they are pollinated by gnats, small flies, beetles and fairies. Usually only one flower blooms per plant thus insuring cross pollination. The brownish-purple or reddish brown flower has been described by writers in many ways: thimblelike; unusally shaped; minute; surprising; nestled like little tailed shrews hidden in a leafy rosette; intriguing; odd; bellshaped with long tails; not gaudy, but fascinating in their strangeness; and unlike no other. Delightful! Don't you agree?

The polished, dark green leaves are two to seven inches in diameter on a seven to ten inch stalk. The one I have growing in my yard is much smaller and shorter, but I imagine it will take off once it gets established. The leaves, stems, and flowers appear somewhat tomentose. Both the creeping rootstocks and the leaves (slight) have the pungent smell of ginger, hence its common name, wild ginger. The rhizomatous roots create a robust system that spreads freely, but slowly. These roots can be crushed and used as a substitute for ginger when seasoning foods. The native Americans made use of this herb in their cooking.

Possibly by now you are as excited about this earthy jewel as I am, and are wondering where you could view such a lush perennial. The native range of *Asarum caudatum* extends from British Columbia to California along the west side of the Cascade Range down to the Coast. It is found less frequently east of the Cascade Range down to the Coast. It is found less frequently east of the Cascades in Northern Idaho and Western Montana. It exists in the lowlands and upward to middle elevations.

In nature, *Asarum caudatum* grows with a large group of shade-loving woodland plants. Included among them are: *Linnaea borealis*, *Lupinus latifolius*, *Galium triflorum*, *G. oreganum*, *Thalictrum occidentale*, *Viola*

glabella, *Vancouveria hexandra*, *Trientalis latifolia*, *Trillium ovatum*, *Oxalis oregana*, *Achlys triphylla*, *Clintonia uniflora*, *Smilacina stella*, *Hieracium albiflorum*, and many more. The native overstory plants that are associated with *A. caudatum* are: *Abies magnifica*, *Calocedrus decurrens*, *Tsuga mertensiana*, *Tsuga heterophylla*, *Thuja plicata*, and *Pseudotsuga menziesii*. The understory shrubs include: *Rosa gymnocarpa*, *Ribes*, *Rubus*, *Pachistima myrsinites*, and *Vaccinium* sp. Many ferns are found in proximity to *A. caudatum*... *Polystichum munitum*, *Athyrium felix-femina*, and *Blechnum spicant* being a few.

Unfortunately wild ginger is not as common in the nurseries as I would like. Although it is locally available, it is handled in such small quantity that it would be an extremely expensive groundcover, particularly if you plan to cover a large area. This limits its ornamental uses to include mixing it with companion plants. Ornamentals such as rhododendrons, tree peonies, hostas, ferns, and any deciduous trees mix well with *Asarum*.

In your garden *Asarum caudatum* does well along banks, in woodland glens, or cozy spots such as the northside of a stone wall. It will thrive in shady garden nooks as long as it receives ample water. Its light requirements include a need for a deciduous overstory (like vine maples) with plenty of shade.

Wild ginger enjoys a canopy to provide high humidity so that it will survive summer drought. It likes to be humid if not wet throughout the summer, and needs protection from drying winds. Do not place it in a boggy environment, rather provide ample drainage. Although it is not effected much by diseases or insects, a little protection from slugs and snails will only enhance its beauty.

When planting *Asarum caudatum* use soil that is well drained, rich, and high in humus. A loose, friable woodland soil is perfect. Any soil that is a moderately fine texture with medium acidity should produce results when growing wild ginger. It survives in rocky soil with leaf mold or sandy soil that remains moist. *Asarum* responds well with applications of leaf mold and compost. It has been known to grow in the duffy layers above the soil. Wild ginger will starve in sterile soil and usually will not tolerate heavy soils or summer drying. Since no one has told the plant this information, it has been spotted growing in heavy clay soils and has adapted to sunny, hot scree slopes on the southwest side of the Olympic Range.

By now you may be mildly curious about propagation techniques. Try this advice on for size: *Asarum caudatum* may be propagated by division of the creeping rootstalks, cuttings or seeds at anytime. Use a rich, moderately acid soil (pH 4.5-6.0). Give it shade and moisture. It is sensitive to improper soil or water conditions during establishment and will not flourish if it is in too cold an area between rooting and planting out. After it establishes it will thrive in a mild, maritime climate and remains hardy to -25°. If you attempt propagation by seed you can expect to wait one year before germination occurs. Using rhizome pieces production time is cut to six to eight months. The best time to plant *Asarum* is Fall, but early Spring or during dormancy works just as well. Plant them out once they reach one-gallon size.

Other gingers of interest include *Asarum hartwegii* from the Siskiyou and southern areas. Its leaves have attractive silver midribs giving it a cyclamen-like appearance. They are reportedly difficult to grow in and around Seattle, although a healthy one has been viewed in the Witt garden.

A. shuttleworthii, also a native, has a similar habitat to *A. hartwegii*.

A. europaeum has leathery, kidney shaped foliage which persists over the winter. They appear glossy deep green. *A. virginicum* has foliage that is mottled with gray and tends to take on bronze tints during Autumn. There is also *A. canadense*, a native of Northeastern America. It is a charming plant that has served as the beginning of the paper about *A. caudatum* as well as the end.



Fig. 5: *Asarum Caudatum*
Kathi Doering Bulfin

Kathi Doering Bulfin '84

BOOK REVIEWS CLIMBERS AND TRAILERS, Julie Grace, Editor, Timber Press, Portland, Oregon, 1983. 114 pp., 260 color illustrations. Price: \$19.95.

In recent years American publishing houses have found profits in releasing titles published originally overseas. Several months ago, for example, the venerable Simon and Schuster served up GARDEN FLOWERS, which was printed originally in Italy. As a descriptive guide the book is reasonably adequate. As a cultural manual for gardeners, the volume leaves something to be desired. Gardeners in Iowa and Connecticut may be forgiven a small skepticism when they are told *Myrtus communis* and *Berberis darwinii* are "Hardy, easy to grow". America has been described as a nation of gardens without gardeners, and a few more volumes such as the above may further diminish the population of weed pullers, soil amenders, plant designers.

CLIMBERS AND TRAILERS, a new title from the very busy Timber Press in Portland, was originally printed in New Zealand. However, the arched eyebrow of your reviewer gave way to a pleasant smile once the book was opened and read. Yes, many of the vines so included are topical or sub-tropical. But an equal number are suited for cooler climbs. Judging the hardiness of the plants is a simple matter of cross-referencing with the SUNSET NEW WESTERN GARDEN BOOK or with the UW Arboretum's MANUAL OF WOODY PLANTS.

Julie Grace, the editor in charge of the project, has done a first-rate job in amassing 260 lovely color photos. Contained in the book is the only known photo we have seen of *Lapageria rosea*. 'Alba', the Chilean bell flower's white form. Readers will also find some twelve pages devoted to *Clematis* species and *hybrida*, and a fair section on climbing roses. Nearly all vines hardy in the Pacific Northwest are portrayed in CLIMBERS AND TRAILERS, including wisteria, *campsis*, and *lonicera*. (The book does not tell you what you are supposed to know, namely that some of the honeysuckles can be the temperate zone's answer to the Strangler Fig).

Priced at \$19.95, the book is a good value and is recommended for those wishing to become more familiar with vines tender and hardy. Many of the tropical sorts can be attempted in the home or in the greenhouse, especially those such as *Thunbergia gibsonii* which are reputedly not rampant. Richard Cravens, who wrote the Time-Life garden volume on vines, has said, "vines are a mode of plant behaviors rather than a botanical family". In CLIMBERS AND TRAILERS you will meet the most glamorous of this group of frustrated trees. The color photography is excellent, the writing concise and culturally informative.

Mark Houser

THE COMPLETE SHADE GARDENER, George Schenk,
Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1984. Price: \$24.95.

Seed catalogs in glorious and jubilant Mexican color and plant lists offering the rare and yearned-for prize species are often the gardener's winter solace. Adding to the comfort of a warm fire, they take us like genies sprung from lanterns to our gardens and stir our fancy with the anticipation of seasons to come. Occasionally, with no seasonal restraints, an exceptional book transports us on a similar mental journey extending the imagination to the potential and real beauties of our garden home beyond. Authors such as Farrer, Kaye and Kruckeberg have all enriched our literature with volumes in their specialties. And now certain to become the classic on its subject, THE COMPLETE SHADE GARDENER, by George Schenk, invites us and helps us to design, plant and stroll in the comfort of the shade. With unique style, lively imagery, genuine sensitivity and a liberal peppering of wit from the beginning on, "Gardening for pleasure - for the refreshment of the eyes, the body, and the whole being - began with the domestication of shade," the author has created an immensely readable and re-readable reference.

Mr. Schenk has long been known in his native Pacific Northwest for his skill with seed and cutting, plant and design, and pen and word. His contributions to horticulture as a rare plant nurseryman and author (ROCK GARDENS, Lane Publishing, 1964, numerous informative and entertaining catalogs as well as unique and stimulating articles in Horticulture Northwest as a contributing member of NOHS) span the continent. But it is his years of quietly observing plants in nature and cultivation, absorbing and experimenting that give the work the joy and honesty of an experience-tempered personal view of plants in harmony with their habitat.

42 THE COMPLETE SHADE GARDENER is indeed complete. In Part I the author gives the garden structure, with directions for soil preparation, illustrated step-by-step pruning, pest control, establishing a lawn, "You're sure, now, this is what you want . . ." seasonal care and the achievement of balance and scale with plants and structures. As if thinking out loud, he leads critically and pictorially through the design processing using his own four-dimensional planting as an example. Weaving words and ideas into an entertaining whole, the basic "how-to's and where-to's" are full of vitality and wisdom - planting: "Fine points of digging holes and heaving dirt" - pruning: "Home gardening is still possible without the use of a chainsaw, that rage of the age, of TV commercials, of early Saturday mornings." As if anticipating the query, there are varied multiple subsections addressing the practical such as "Shade plants usually slug and snail-proof," "Trees in hard ground or a grassy area," and "Thicket thinning." The section concludes with a nonscientific discussion of "shades of shade," an analysis of the subtleties of variation in shade (some 12 types) which serves as a reference for the remainder of the text.

Part II, the bulk of the book, is devoted to descriptions of the plants themselves starting from the top, so to speak, with trees, including cautions for those that are hazardous to the underplantings, and continuing with shrubs, groundcovers and vines, ferns, perennials, annuals and edibles. As he reaches for the perfect plant for the garden, so he reaches for the perfect word, the perfect image for the plant's character: ". . . one of the most graceful small trees in the garden repertoire. It is usually a mistake for the gardener (both as artist and plant psychologist) to practice repressive pruning on this plant." - *Enkianthus campanulatus*. " - but what leaves: marbled, ocellated, silvered, gilded, alchemically suffused with essences of amethyst, emerald, topaz, and ruby, leaves star-form, or like angel wings, or like lily pads, with satiny or brocaded surfaces . . ." - *Rex begonias*. "Big, bold, leathery evergreen fronds with toothy serrations, the pinnae about the size and shape of the teeth of *Tyrannosaurus rex*." - *Cyrtomium falcatum*. Reading this section is like reviewing a grand invitation list to a botanical garden party (and suitable combinations are suggested).

While there are plants for those whose tastes run no farther than the selection at the local supermarket, for many a specialty nursery is in order, and an appendix offers a comprehensive list of sources that should provide suitable life for every shady cranny.

The book is amply illustrated (although one wishes for more color plates) with photos taken primarily by the skilled and perceptive photo-eye of Don Normark.

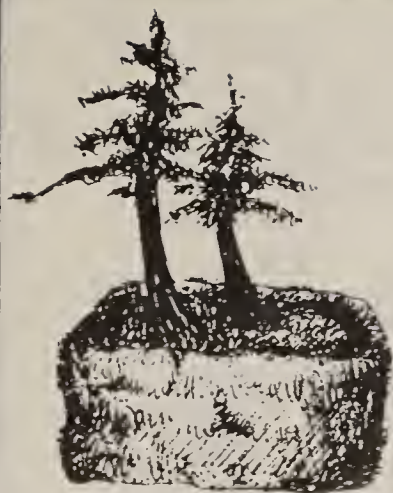
THE COMPLETE SHADE GARDENER should be in every gardener's library where it will be enjoyed and quoted for generations to come. Better yet, it should be in the lap, and certainly so in front of the next year's warm winter fire.



Sue Olsen

The modern rotary lawnmower can be a boon to good culture of flowering shrubs and trees, reports one area gardener. In the autumn the lawnmower can be used to collect and shred leaves with conifer needles, which are then used as an organic mulch for garden plants. Once the leaves have been shredded and semi-composted by the mower, they are unlikely to blow about in windstorms. The compressed mulch will last longer and provide more benefits than the usual practice of raking unprocessed leaves into shrub beds.





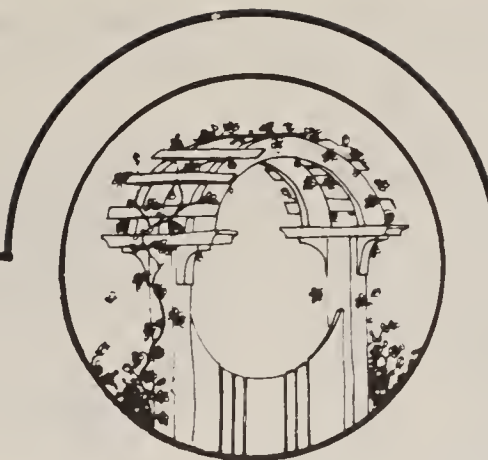
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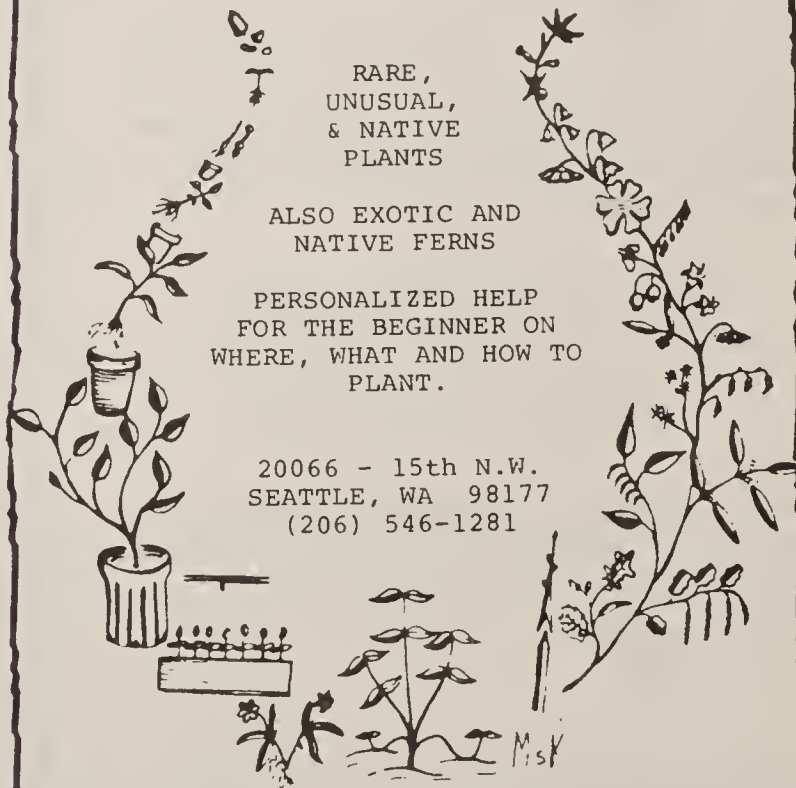
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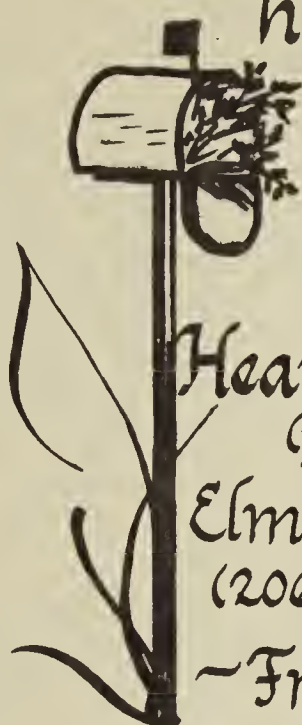
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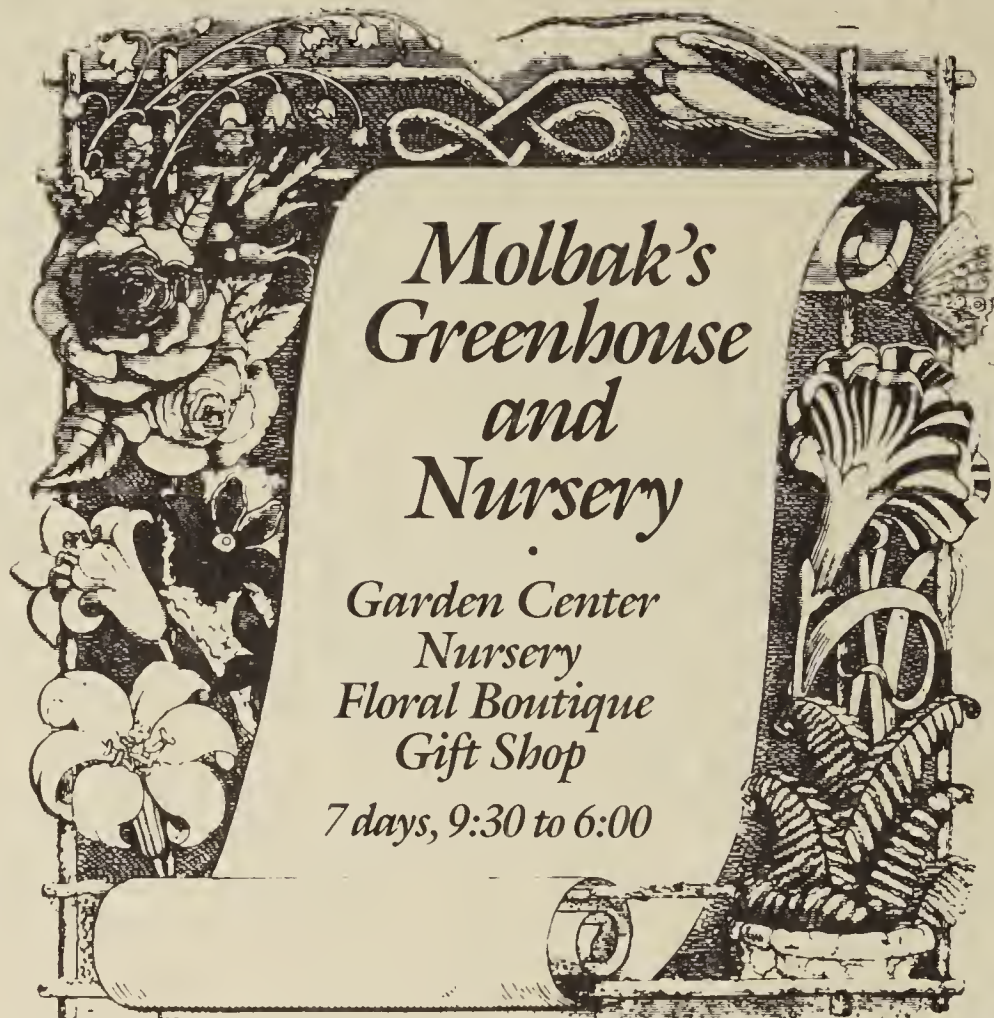
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